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STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : L-4 and L-1

DATE: 21 January, 1946

FROM : G-1

Wash - R - P - S - S

SUBJECT: Martin BORMANN

100-107
Folder
Bormann

1. It was suggested that the attached material should go to both State and G-2.

2. The report on BORMANN's death is taken from an account by an eye-witness, a German soldier attached to Hitler's Headquarters at the Chancellery building in Berlin during the last days before the Russian entry. This soldier later fled to Switzerland and was imprisoned there by the Swiss Police. He wrote his report on the last days in the Chancellery while in prison and therefore presumably out of touch with the outer world and all the various reports and rumors which circulated after the German collapse on the subject of the final fate of the top Nazis in Berlin. Since all reports on the melodramatic finale of the occupants of the Fuehrer's air raid shelter have varied a good deal, it cannot be determined whether the soldier's report is reliable in its details, and therefore possibly in its major facts, or not. Although the soldier was of extremely low rank with no real entree into the inner group, it is still thought that his information is essentially trustworthy.

3. It should, nevertheless, be stated here that a rumor was circulating in Switzerland in late 1945 that BORMANN, or someone resembling him, was among a group of Germans in Northern Italy all of whom were attempting to enter Switzerland. Our representative in Switzerland thought enough of this rumor to inform the Swiss Border Police of it.

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SOURCES METHODS EXEMPTION 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2001 2008

EXEMPTIONS Section 3(b)

- (2)(A) Privacy ☐
(2)(B) Methods/Sources ☒
(2)(G) Foreign Relations ☐

NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT

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Martin BORMANN

1. A soldier on Hitler's staff at the Chancellery in Berlin during the last days before the final collapse, reports that on the last of May 1945, a break through the Russian lines was organized by SS Officer GUENSCHKE. The personnel concerned consisted of some 40 men who had remained behind in the Chancellery shelter after various more important members of the Fuehrer's entourage had left by plane between the 20th and 28th of April. The break-through which was to have started according to plan during the early morning hours of the 2nd of May did not take place as planned since there was no real command. Instead everyone made off in whatever direction seemed to offer escape at the moment.

2. It was during this unorganized flight, according to the soldier making the report who claims to be an eye-witness, that Reichsleiter BORMANN was shot down trying to cross Linden-dammer Bridge.

cc: 3-2

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